GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1008
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2001
IMPORT OF NEWSPRINT
RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

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(a) the quantity of newsprint imported during each of the last three years; (

(b) the quantity of newsprint consumed by print media during each of the last three years by print media especially; and (

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the production of newsprint in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) The quantity of newsprint imported during 1998-99, 1999-2000 & 2000-2001 is as under:-

Qty in Tonnes

1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001(P)
456483	439441	442444

(P) - Provisional, Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata

(b) : The import of newsprint by actual users being free since 1995, upto date consumption data is not available.

(c) : Following steps have been taken by the Government to increase the indigenous production of newsprint:-

i) Newsprint industry has been delicensed subject to locational policy.
ii) Newsprint has been exempted from excise duty.
iii) There is no customs duty on pulp for manufacture of newsprint.
iv) With a view to encouraging the indigenous availability of newsprint, such paper mills which are producing newsprint conforming to BIS standards are placed in schedule I to the newsprints control order, 1962 declaring them as mills manufacturing newsprint.